

# Minutes HISTORY MUSEUM AND LIBRARY ADVISORY BOARD Wednesday, November 4, 2015

Minutes of the HISTORY MUSEUM AND LIBRARY ADVISORY BOARD recorded at 5:30 p.m. on Wednesday, November 4, 2015, within the Tempe History Museum Board Room, 809 E. Southern Ave., Tempe, AZ.

# (MEMBERS) Present:

Jennifer Wagner (Chair)
Virginia (Ginny) Sylvester (Vice-Chair)
David Huizingh
John Linda (Arrived at 5:35 p.m.)
Margaret (Peggy) Moroney
Mary O'Grady
Gail Rathbun

#### (MEMBERS) Not Present:

Estevan (Steven) Saiz Johnny Tse

#### **City Staff Present:**

Barbara Roberts, Deputy Director, Library and Cultural Services Brenda Abney, Museum Manager, Library and Cultural Services Division Amanda Martin, Administrative Assistant, Tempe History Museum

# **General Public Present:**

Eduarda Yates, Tempe Historical Society Representative

# Agenda Item 1 - Call to Order:

 Jennifer Wagner, History Museum and Library Advisory Board Chair, called the meeting to order at 5:32 p.m.

#### Agenda Item 2 - Call to the Audience:

None.

# <u>Agenda Item 3 – Approval of the September 9, 2015 History Museum and Library Advisory Board Meeting Minutes - ACTION</u>

 Jennifer Wagner asked the Board members to review the unapproved History Museum and Library Advisory Board Meeting Minutes document dated September 9, 2015.

MOTION: Virginia (Ginny) Sylvester made a motion to approve the September 9, 2015 History Museum and Library Advisory Board Meeting Minutes as presented.

SECOND: David Huizingh seconded.

DECISION: The September 9, 2015 History Museum and Library Advisory Board Meeting Minutes

were approved as presented.

# <u>Agenda Item 4 - Approval of the October 7, 2015 History Museum and Library Advisory Board</u> Meeting Minutes - ACTION

 Jennifer Wagner asked the Board members to review the unapproved History Museum and Library Advisory Board Meeting Minutes document dated October 7, 2015.

MOTION: Virginia (Ginny) Sylvester made a motion to approve the October 7, 2015 History

Museum and Library Advisory Board Meeting Minutes as presented.

SECOND: Gail Rathbun seconded.

DECISION: The October 7, 2015 History Museum and Library Advisory Board Meeting Minutes were

approved as presented.

#### Agenda Item 5 - Friends of the Tempe Public Library Report:

None

#### Agenda Item 6 – Tempe Historical Society Report:

- Eduarda Yates reported on the following to the Board:
  - The Tempe Historical Society's Larry Campbell Tree of Lights celebration, with the participation of the Veterans History Project and the Friends of the Tempe Public Library, is scheduled to occur in early December. This program provides an opportunity to honor and remember friends, family and loved ones with commemorative ornaments placed on a tree within the Tempe History Museum's lobby, with proceeds used to support the Museum's Oral History Project.
  - Hayden Ferry Days will take place on March 18 and 19, 2016.
    - Festivities on March 18 include a dinner at the Hackett House. Events on March 19 include a car show at Kiwanis Park, a tour of downtown Tempe, and a festival at the Tempe Library Complex to include vendors, partner booths, indoor activities and more.
    - J. Wagner inquired about how the Tempe History Museum and Library Advisory
      Board can obtain a booth for Hayden Ferry Days.
    - Brenda Abney stated that partner and vendor application forms for the March 19
       Hayden Ferry Days event are available through the Museum's website at <a href="https://www.Tempe.gov/Museum">www.Tempe.gov/Museum</a>.
  - The Tempe Historical Society's Lunch Talk program kicked off on October 15. The first program of the series was well-attended and featured guest speaker, Dr. Grady Gammage, Jr.
  - The next Tempe Historical Society Lunch Talk is scheduled for Wednesday, November
     11 and features speaker Marcie Gorman who will talk about the Elias-Rodriguez House.

# Agenda Item 7 - Staff Reports:

- Library Report Barbara Roberts reported on the following to the Board:
  - The Tempe Public Library has been receiving public feedback on the recent two recent policy changes the Board approved:

- The closure of the Library's north door (minimal concern)
- Changes to the food policy in the Library's Code of Conduct. (Most comments center around providing a place to eat somewhere in the Library.)

Mary O'Grady inquired whether or not the Library's north door closure has impacted attendance at the Tempe History Museum.

- B. Abney stated that the north door closure has not made a noticeable impact on Museum attendance.
- B. Roberts noted that the Library's north doors can be opened to provide better access to the Library complex courtyard and the Tempe History Museum during special events.
- Bike parking at the Library: consideration is being given to moving the bike racks from the now closed north entry door to a location closer to the Library's main entrance.
- Strategic planning community engagement draft report is completed and the Board will see the final version next month.
- The Library's annual "Food for Fines" program began November 1 and will continue through December 31. One can of food is equal to \$1 in fines waived. The Library's partner is Tempe Community Action Agency (TCAA).
- The Library is in the process of recruiting for the last open Librarian position for Youth Services. The position will be focused on childhood literacy.
- City Council will be considering a contract award to a radio frequency identification device (RFID) vendor at the November 12 City Council Meeting.
- Museum Report Brenda Abney reported on the following to the Board:
  - Tempe History Museum staff is focusing most of their immediate efforts on the Legend City exhibit opening scheduled for Friday, November 6.
  - The Tempe History Museum's ReVamped Third Thursday program kicked off on October 15 and was well-attended.
    - The 2015-16 Third Thursday program relies on community hosts to create, plan and organize an event of their choosing within the series. Each Third Thursday program will provide free, quality baked goods and coffee from Cortez Coffee and Mind Over Batter or Whole Foods.
  - Upcoming events at the Museum include the Larry Campbell Tree of Lights, Tempe Historical Society Lunch Talks, a showing of the Polar Express in December, and Christmas at the Petersen House Museum on weekends in December.
  - The Tempe History Museum is continuing its relationship with the Museum of Danish America for consulting purposes at the Petersen House.
    - The Tempe History Museum is looking to decorate the home in a turn-of-thecentury/early Tempe Christmas style rather than a strictly Danish Christmas décor.
  - B. Abney asked M. (Peggy) Moroney if she will be willing to lend her nisse collection to the Tempe History Museum for Christmas at the Petersen House. P. Moroney agreed to lend her nisse collection to the Museum for the holiday season.
  - The Tempe History Museum has begun offering its 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Tour program and has completed one tour to-date, with 13 more scheduled throughout November and December.
  - 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Tours at the Petersen House begin in January, 2016.

## Agenda Item 8 - Museum Collections Committee Report

Written report provided

- Brenda Abney reported to the Board:
  - o There are no incoming provisional deposits or acquisitions at this time.
  - o Loans are currently being processed for the Legend City exhibit.
  - o There are currently 42 provisional deposits that need to be processed.
  - J. Wagner asked B. Abney if the Museum Collections Committee needs an additional committee member. B. Abney stated that she is unsure if an additional committee member is needed at this time.

#### Agenda Item 9 - Board Members' Announcements

- M. (Peggy) Moroney informed the Board that at fundraiser event commemorating the opening of the Eisendrath House is taking place on November 20, 2015. Tickets for the event are \$120 each and may be purchased online.
  - Starting in January, 2016, the Eisendrath House will be available for special event rentals.
  - Public viewing days at the house are scheduled from 10 a.m.-3:30 p.m. on November 21 and 22.
  - The property has been conserved and will house an education building for family-oriented programs. The property will function as a campus for sustainability, as well as a teaching instrument to help share the history of the Carl Hayden family.
- V. (Ginny) Sylvester reported to the Board that a video of a celebratory dinner for Carl Hayden held at the Westward Ho Hotel in 1961 is available through the ASU Digital Repository Library website at <a href="http://repository.asu.edu/search?q=Hayden+Dinner">http://repository.asu.edu/search?q=Hayden+Dinner</a>
  - The video features remarks by President John. F. Kennedy, Vice President Lynden B Johnson and prominent Arizona politicians.

# Agenda Item 13 - Adjournment

Chair Jennifer Wagner adjourned the meeting at 6:12 PM.

The next meeting date and location of the History Museum and Library Advisory Board is Wednesday, December 2, 2015 at 5:30 PM in the Tempe Public Library  $-2^{nd}$  Floor Board Room.

Prepared by: Amanda Martin

Reviewed by: Barbara Roberts and Brenda Abney

Approval signature: History Museum and Library Advisory Board Member